



Michael Murphy

Alderman - 16th District

SPRING 2003

Murphy's Law Cuts Council Size, Saves \$\$\$ for City



Alderman Murphy along with Alderman Hines have won passage of an ordinance they sponsored reducing the size of the Common Council by two members to a total

of 15, effective with the next council election in April 2004.

Alderman Murphy said 15 members could handle council work and constituent relations without affecting the delivery of any services to residents. "We reduced the size of government without cutting a single service, and saved \$3.2 million," Murphy said.

Alderman Murphy said research by the city's Legislative Reference Bureau estimated that the cuts would save nearly \$400,000 annually, amounting to a total savings of \$3.2 million in the next two terms, mostly in salaries and fringe benefits for two council members and each member's full-time assistant.

"With continuing budget restraints and state caps on shared revenue, the council has a clear role in keeping its own budget under tough scrutiny," Alderman Murphy argued.

Maps of the proposed redistricting have been approved. Because there will be just 15 districts, the 16th District will become

the 10th District, encompassing essentially the same area as the present 16th District, plus some new wards to the north.

"We took advantage of a tremendous opportunity to reduce the size of the council, simultaneously maintaining the number of minority representatives and possibly increasing minority representation," Alderman Hines said.

The projected savings are for the eight years until the 2010 U.S. Census when federal law will require the next reapportionment.

Property Assessments Can Be Appealed

City assessment notices reflecting new assessed values for real estate parcels in the City of Milwaukee were mailed to homeowners the week of April 28th. It is possible until **May 19, 2003** to challenge the Assessor's valuation of your property. The challenge process is as follows:

First, decide for yourself what your home is worth by comparing assessments of homes similar to yours ("comparables") *in your area*. Sales and assessment information is available in the Assessor's Office, the Milwaukee Public Library or on-line at www.milwaukee.gov/assessor. Next, make an appointment to talk with a city assessor. In this informal session, you can learn

how your assessment was made, what factors were considered and what type of records are kept regarding your property.

The next step is to file a written objection before the **May 19 deadline** on a form available from the Assessor's Office. To properly review the assessed value, the assessor may need to go through your property. During the inspection, you can provide any information you feel will be helpful in the review. Then the assessor's review will go to the Board of Assessors, a group of his/her supervisors. You will receive their decision in writing. If you still disagree, the next step is a hearing before the Board of Review, a panel of five citizens appointed by the Mayor. If you don't agree with the Board of Review, you can appeal in Circuit Court.

Alderman Murphy's Committee Assignments

Chair

- Arts Board

Vice Chair

- Finance & Personnel Committee

Member

- Judiciary & Legislation Committee
- Community Development Committee

Member

- Friends of the Golda Meir Library
- Employees' Retirement System Board

Story Hill Neighbors Fight 1-94 Widening

A state transportation plan to widen East-West I-94 through much of the 16th Aldermanic District was a topic of the Story Hill Neighborhood Association (SHNA) quarterly meeting attended by Alderman Murphy on April 16 at the Wisconsin Humane Society.

The proposed freeway reconstruction is opposed by Alderman Murphy due to the negative impacts upon the 16th District and the city overall.

County Executive Scott Walker favors widening the freeway. He was invited to address the meeting. SHNA President Sandy Rusch Walton said Walker did not respond to the invitation.

Alderman Murphy credited SHNA officers and residents for effectively pressuring public officials and the news media to



Story Hill Neighborhood Association members, Gretchen Schuldt and Bob Trimmier were lauded by Alderman Murphy at the association's quarterly meeting. The alderman recognized them for the work they have done to oppose freeway widening.

expose the waste and damage that freeway widening will do to Milwaukee. "Thanks for your tireless efforts in standing up for Milwaukee neighborhoods," he said.

The state's freeway expansion plan calls for 127 miles of additional freeway lanes at a cost of more than \$7 billion – money that does not now exist in state budgets, suggesting a massive gasoline tax increase will be coming. The plans also would require that at least 177 homes and 20 businesses be torn down in Milwaukee County.

In addition to Alderman Murphy, elected officials on record opposing the plan include Mayor Norquist, County Supervisor DeBruin, the Milwaukee and Glendale Common Councils, the Milwaukee County Board, the River Hills Village Board and the Nicolet School Board.

The Story Hill Neighborhood Association's website is an excellent source for information about the project and other Story Hill news. Check **www.storyhill.net**.

Murphy Honors Blaha and Averill for Community Service



Alderman Murphy presented commendations from the Common Council to Maggie Blaha and Bill Averill, recognizing each of them as an "Unsung Hero" in Milwaukee for tireless public service work in the community.

Alderman Murphy and the Milwaukee Common Council commended two west side residents, Maggie Blaha and Bill Averill, for their service to the community. Alderman Murphy presented plaques recognizing them as two of Milwaukee's "Unsung Heroes," those residents who go out of their way to help make the community and the city as a whole a better place to live.

The "Unsung Heroes" initiative was created to recognize citizens who improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods. All 17 members of the Common Council were asked to nominate constituents who have taken the time to help neighbors and get involved in their communities through youth programs, neighborhood associations and/or service to elderly or disabled residents.

In bestowing Maggie Blaha's commendation, Alderman Murphy noted that she has volunteered her time to the children and neighbors of her community for nearly 30 years. As a teacher at St. Sebastian

Elementary, she also has volunteered as a Den Mother and Girl Scout troop leader. She also hosts meetings for the Martin Drive neighborhood association and continues to selflessly donate her time.

Bill Averill has been an active member of AFSCME Local 40 and has served as president of the union for 12 years. He has worked vigorously to establish Neighborhood Watch programs in the interest of better safety for neighborhood children. He is an advocate for instilling in children and others the values of citizenship and community involvement.

Alderman Murphy said the idea of honoring citizens for their selfless work to improve the community is important. "The Unsung Hero Award is a great way to show our constituents that we are aware of the good deeds performed by others, and that those deeds genuinely help make life better for all of us," he said. "We need them to know that their work does not go unnoticed."

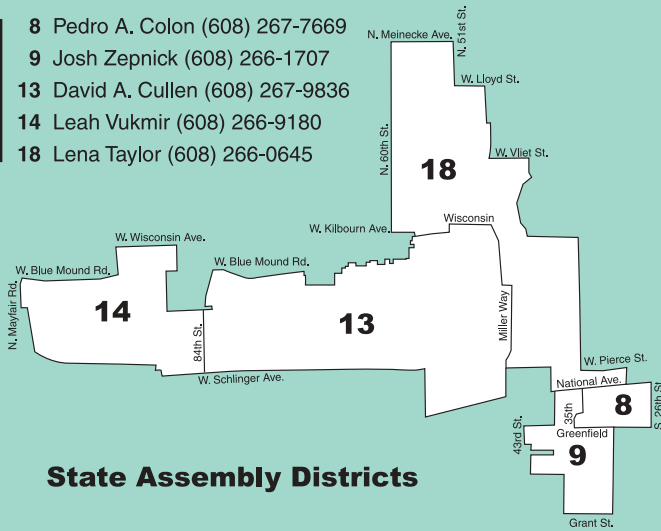
CITY OF MILWAUKEE

16th District Government Officials

Alderman Michael Murphy

DISTRICT

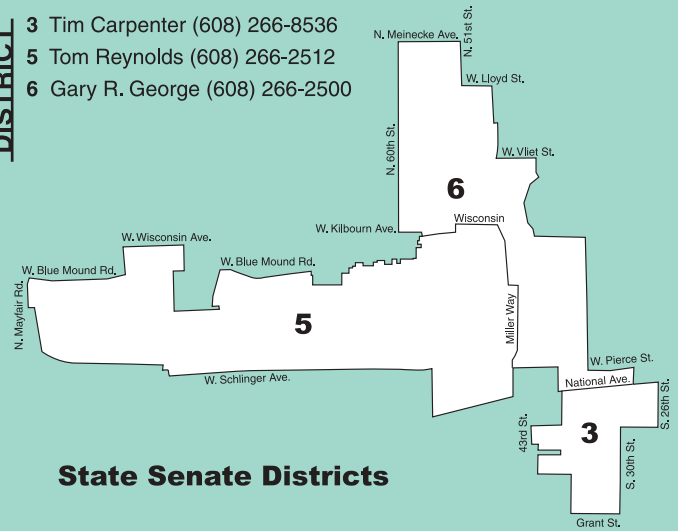
- 8 Pedro A. Colon (608) 267-7669
- 9 Josh Zepnick (608) 266-1707
- 13 David A. Cullen (608) 267-9836
- 14 Leah Vukmir (608) 266-9180
- 18 Lena Taylor (608) 266-0645



State Assembly Districts

DISTRICT

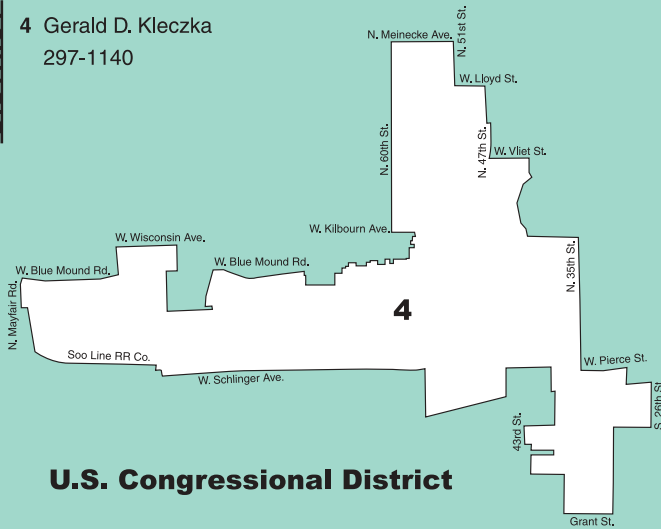
- 3 Tim Carpenter (608) 266-8536
- 5 Tom Reynolds (608) 266-2512
- 6 Gary R. George (608) 266-2500



State Senate Districts

DISTRICT

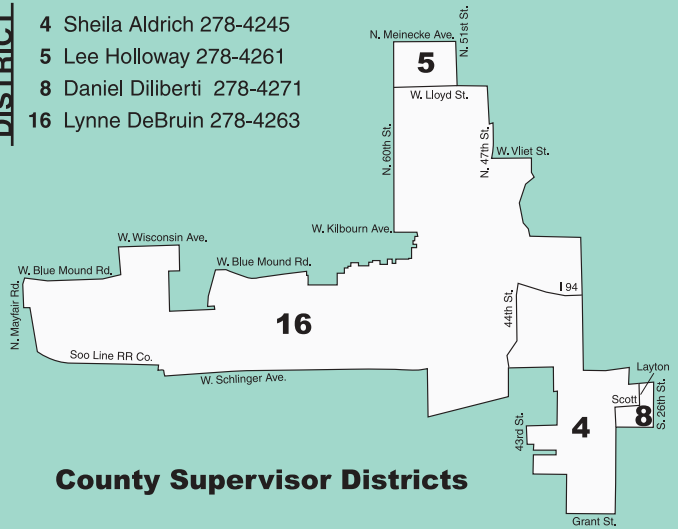
- 4 Gerald D. Kleczka
297-1140



U.S. Congressional District

DISTRICT

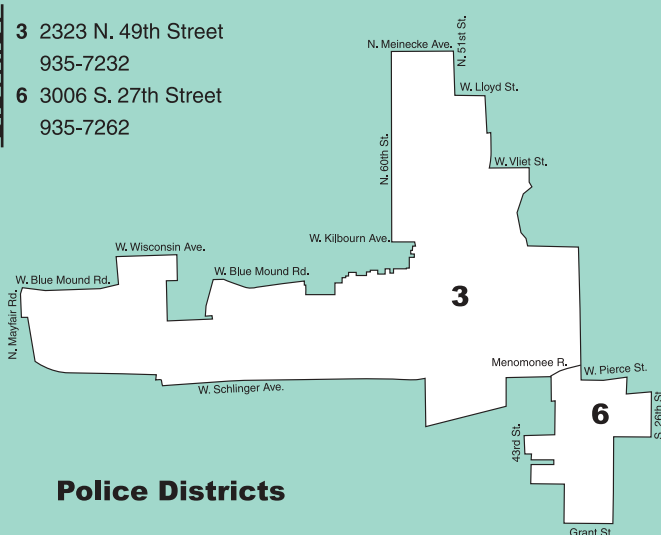
- 4 Sheila Aldrich 278-4245
- 5 Lee Holloway 278-4261
- 8 Daniel Diliberti 278-4271
- 16 Lynne DeBruin 278-4263



County Supervisor Districts

DISTRICT

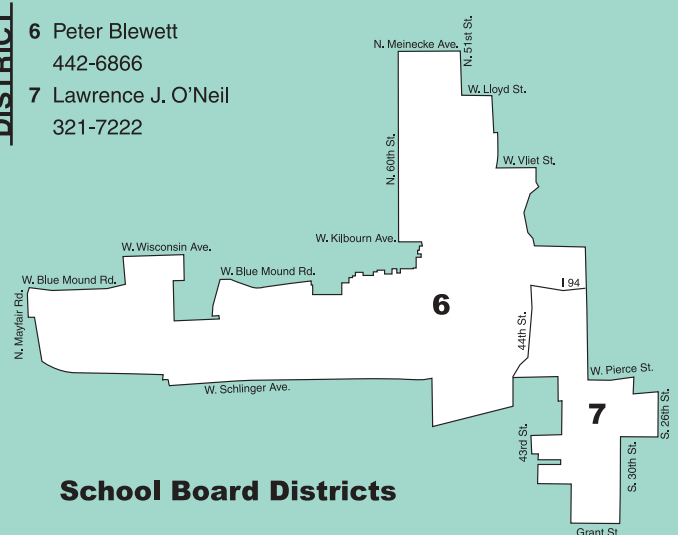
- 3 2323 N. 49th Street
935-7232
- 6 3006 S. 27th Street
935-7262



Police Districts

DISTRICT

- 6 Peter Blewett
442-6866
- 7 Lawrence J. O'Neil
321-7222



School Board Districts

Festivals

Church Festivals

- June 6 - 8 St. Vincent Pallotti Festival, 453-5344
7622 E. Stevenson Ave.
- July 25 - 27 St. Theresa Festival, 771-2500
9525 W. Blue Mound Rd.
- Aug. 3 Sacred Heart Festival, 774-9418
917 N. 49th St.

Summer Festivals

- May 30 - June 1 Riversplash!, Pere Marquette Park
- June 1 Miller Lite Ride for the Arts
- June 4 - 6 Cajun Fest, State Fair Park
- June 4 - Aug. 29 Rainbow Summer, PAC Peck Pavilion
- June 4 - Aug. 27 Westown's River Rhythms, Pere Marquette Park
- June 5 - 8 Harley Davidson's Milwaukee Rally, State Fair Park
- June 5 - Sept. 18 Jazz in the Park, Cathedral Square Park
- June 6 - 8 PrideFest, Maier Festival Park
- June 13 - 15 Asian Moon Festival, Maier Festival Park
- June 18 Seniorfest, American Serb Hall
- June 19 Juneteenth Day
- June 20 - 22 Lakefront Festival of Arts, Milwaukee Art Museum
- June 20 - 22 Polish Fest, Maier Festival Park
- June 26 - July 6 Summerfest, Maier Festival Park
- July 3 U.S. Bank Fireworks, Veterans Park
- July 4 Independence Day Celebrations in parks



- July 7 - 13 Greater Milwaukee Open, Brown Deer Park Golf Course
- July 10 - 13 Bastille Days, Cathedral Square
- July 10 - 13 Greek Festival, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
- July 11 - 13 South Shore Frolic
- July 13 Great Circus Parade
- July 17 - 20 Festa Italiana, Maier Festival Park
- July 19 Garfield Avenue Blues, Gospel & Arts Festival
- July 25 - 27 German Fest, Maier Festival Park
- July 31 - Aug. 10 Wisconsin State Fair, State Fair Park
- Aug. 1 - 2 Historic Third Ward Jazz Festival
- Aug. 1 - 3 African World Festival, Maier Festival Park
- Aug 1, 8, 15, 22 River Flicks
- Aug. 28 - 31 Harley-Davidson 100th Anniversary
- Aug. 14 - 17 Irish Fest, Maier Festival Park
- Aug. 14 - 17 Milwaukee A La Carte, Milwaukee County Zoo
- Aug. 22 - 24 Mexican Fiesta, Maier Festival Park
- Sept. 1 Labor Fest
- Sept. 5 - 7 Indian Summer, Maier Festival Park
- Sept. 12 - 14 Arabian Fest, Maier Festival Park
- September 21 Al's Run and Walk

To find out more about the events listed above, call the Greater Milwaukee Convention & Visitors Bureau at **1-800-554-1448**, and for more information about Independence Day activities sponsored by the City of Milwaukee, call the Department of City Development at **286-5794**.

Burbank Playfield To Get Facelift

In response to several requests by neighbors, Alderman Murphy has secured funding to improve the Burbank Playfield, 6225 W. Adler, this fall and into next year.

This fall the Burbank wading pool will have a new filtration system installed to help keep the wading area safe and clean for years to come. Next year, new playground equipment will also be added to the park. The improvements to the wading pool and the new equipment will help spruce up the park for children and families in the neighborhood.

Bike Sale & Auction of City Surplus

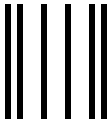
The City of Milwaukee has scheduled a special fixed-price sale of bicycles on Saturday, June 4, at the Municipal Warehouse, 1028 N. Hawley Rd. On Saturday, August 23, the city will auction bicycles, mopeds, lawnmowers, electronics, unclaimed property and city surplus.

Both sales begin at 9 a.m. at the city's Municipal Warehouse.

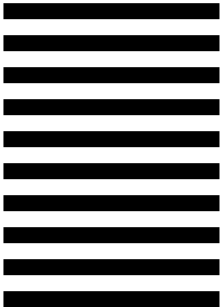
To learn more about the auction and related issues – and to inspect items that will be offered at auction – go to the city's web page (www.milwaukee.gov) and click on the "On-line Auction" icon.



Alderman Murphy honored members of the Pius XI state championship girls volleyball team at a recent Common Council meeting. The girls won the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) state tournament in November. Alderman Murphy (left) presented a council congratulatory resolution to the girls and Coach Dave Scher (front center).



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Ald. Michael Murphy
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City & Harley-Davidson Begin New Housing Initiative

A coalition of city agencies and Harley-Davidson have begun a major infusion of investment and hope for the future for the struggling neighborhood surrounding Harley's west side headquarters.

The revitalization target area is in the 16th District, bordered by W. Vliet St., W. McKinley Blvd., and N. 35th and N. 40th Sts.

A year ago, Alderman Murphy was instrumental in creating a catalytic project area partnership with Harley and the Neighborhood Improvement Development Corp. (NIDC), the City of Milwaukee's housing production agency. The goal is to stabilize the Harley neighborhood through new homeownership and neighborhood improvements, Murphy said.

The first phase, to be completed this year, will involve constructing three new single-family homes on lots donated by Harley on N. 40th St. In addition, Habitat for Humanity is building five single-family homes on N. 36th St. on lots donated by Harley. Other homes will be rehabilitated to increase their value.



Ground was broken by (from left) Alderman Murphy, Jim Brostowitz (controller for Harley-Davidson), and Jeff Bleustein (CEO of Harley-Davidson), to begin the first phase of the city-Harley project in the 1400 block of N. 40th St. Construction is now underway.

Alderman Murphy has secured \$75,000 in funding for construction of a tot lot with playground equipment at 37th and McKinley in the target area. It will be built on city-owned land combined with a lot donated by Harley-Davidson.

Alderman Murphy praised the coalition of partners: Harley-Davidson, Habitat for Humanity, the West End Development Corp., and city agencies including NIDC, the Community Block Grant Agency, and the departments of City Development, Neighborhood Services and Public Works. He noted that Harley-Davidson is prepared to invest more than \$1 million in the improvements, donating land and landscaping improvements for the new housing and for terraces along the 3600 to 3900 blocks of W. McKinley.

"The success of this coalition is a model for other urban redevelopment in the City of Milwaukee," Murphy said. "The increase in new owner-occupied housing and the close proximity to jobs will make the area an attractive place to live and work."

Free for the Asking



*The City of Milwaukee has free, informative printed materials that I would be happy to send you. Please check off those you would like to receive, then detach this card and mail it to me. **Also, I would be interested in any comments or questions you might have.***

- ☐ Bicycle Milwaukee Route Guide
- ☐ Urban River Safety
- ☐ Milwaukee: City Government & How It Works
- ☐ Postcards of City Hall
- ☐ Breast Cancer Awareness Mobile Mammography Van Schedule
- ☐ Brewers 2003 Season Schedule
- ☐ How to Disconnect Your Downspout

Dear Ald. Murphy: _____

Name _____

Address _____ Zip _____

How to Contact Ald. Murphy

Write:

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Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Call:

286-2221



Michael Murphy

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Milwaukee, WI 53202

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As grand marshal of this year's Shamrock Club St. Patrick's Day parade, Alderman Murphy was greeted by spectators along the route. The alderman enjoyed the ride, the music and festivities with his wife, Terry. The day was spectacular and the crowds saw a great parade on a sunny unseasonably warm day.

New Washington Park Library Opens

Washington Park Library, the City of Milwaukee's newest and largest neighborhood library, opened on Saturday, April 12. Facing Washington Park at 2121 N. Sherman Blvd. (the corner of Sherman Blvd., W Lisbon Ave. and W. Lloyd St.), the new building replaces the former Finney Library.

The new two-story library, named for the adjacent park, is designed to enhance the historic neighborhood and also to be energy efficient. At 20,000-square-feet, it's twice the size of the Finney Library and the largest branch library in the city.

"Washington Park Library is an amenity that will complement new developments throughout the neighborhood for years to come," Alderman Murphy said.

It has an expanded collection of 80,000 books, videos, CDs, DVDs and other items. It also provides city residents with free access to 36 computers with Internet

access and library resources. Ten computers are part of the SBC Computer Training Center, which will provide free classes for the public, as well as be available for independent use.



Alderman Murphy spoke during the April 12 grand opening of the new Washington Park Library at 2121 N. Sherman Blvd. The new state-of-the-art library opened on April 12 and is closer and more easily accessible to 16th District residents.

Washington Park Library has more space for children and young adults. It also has excellent community meeting room space, including a large meeting room that accommodates 80 persons.

A one-on-one tutoring program for adults seeking to improve their literacy skills had outgrown its space at Finney Library, and now has room to grow in the new library Learning Center.

The City of Milwaukee funded the \$4.4 million library. The Milwaukee Public Library Foundation raised \$100,000 for the new library, and SBC Foundation provided a gift of \$50,000 for the new computer-training center. Miller Brewing Company provided a \$25,000 challenge grant towards the foundation's \$50,000 campaign goal for new books and other items. The Betty Brinn Foundation contributed a gift of \$10,000 for books and materials.